

PORTISHEAD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the year ending 31st December, 1940.

To the Chairman and Members of the Portishead Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1940. A brief review of the Statistics is given. 1940 was the first complete year of War. The health of the District has been satisfactory and war conditions, such as black-out and rationing, have had no ill effects. The A.R.P. services under my control have been continuously ready for duty and when required did their job in the way it should be done. I am very glad to be able to officially record my appreciation of the Nurses, First Aid Parties, Ambulance and Car Drivers, both full time and voluntary who have been and are always ready to deal with any casualties that may occur. In a public report I cannot give more exact particulars of their activities.

1. VITAL STATISTICS.

Death Rate 12.1	England & Wales 14.3
Birth Rate 10.6	England & Wales 14.6

2. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	<u>Total Cases</u> <u>Notified.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Diphtheria.	3	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever.	1	1
Erysipelas.	1	-

During the year Measles and Whooping Cough became notifiable for the first time. There was, in common with most of the Country, a fairly severe epidemic of influenza. Two deaths were notified.

3. TUBERCULOSIS.

	<u>Total Cases</u> <u>Notified.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Respiratory.	5	1
Non-Respiratory.	2	nil.

4. MATERNAL & INFANT MORTALITY.

No deaths in either case.

5. INFANT WELFARE.

The Centre meets every fortnight. Attendances of Mothers and Babies have been satisfactory.

6. NURSING AND AMBULANCE.

Two Queens Nurses employed. Their services have been most satisfactory and are much appreciated. They carry out General Nursing and Midwifery. Most of the expenses are met by a voluntary scheme which needs more assistance from the public. There are no Nursing Homes in the District. The St. John Ambulance Brigade provides Ambulance facilities and does very good work in attending accidents and taking patients to Hospitals.

7. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISING.

A greater number of parents are realising the importance of this and are having their children done. The great protection against Diphtheria that immunising gives cannot be too greatly emphasized. All children can be done free of cost.

8. MORTUARY.

Still a most unsatisfactory building in every way and most unsuitable to have in Portishead.

9. MILK & MEAT SUPPLY, WATER SUPPLY, SEWAGE.

No changes in any of these services have been made.

10. HOUSING.

Figures have been given in the Surveyor's Report.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J.E.McCormick, M.B.,B.Ch.,B.A.C.,
M.O.H. Portishead Urban District Council.

1st September,1941.

